

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 05961 01 OF 02 160000Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----102261 160006Z /66
O 152105Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3023

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 JIDDA 5961

NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR WEST

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, SA, US
SUBJECT: LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER FROM H.M. KING KHALID

1. HERewith FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF A LETER TO PRESIDENT CARTER
FROM H.M. KING KHALID OF SAUDI ARABIA CONCERNING HIS HOPES
FOR THE PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVE IN CONVOKING THE CAMP DAVID
SUMMIT CONFERENCE.

2. TEXT, FREELY TRANSLATED, BEGIN QUOTE:

HIS EXCELLENCY
PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

IT WAS A PLEASURE FOR ME TO RECEIVE THROUGH H.E.
AMBASSADOR JOHN WEST, YOUR EXCELLENCY'S MESSAGE REGARDING
YOUR INTENTION TO CONVENE A TRIPARTITE SUMMIT MEETING AT
CAMP DAVID ON SEPTEMBER 5, 1978, TO BE ATTENDED, IN ADDITION
TO YOUR EXCELLENCY, BY H.E. PRESIDENT MUHAMMAD ANWAR
SADAT AND MR. BEGIN.

I WAS ALSO DELIGHTED WITH THE ARRIVAL IN SAUDI ARABIA
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OF AMBASSADOR ALFRED AThERTON TO COMMUNICATE TO THE SAUDI
OFFICIALS THE OUTCOME OF SECRETARY CYRUS VANCE'S TALKS
IN THE REGION IN PREPARATION FOR THE CONVENING OF CAMP
DAVID MEETING.

ALLOW ME, YOUR EXCELLENCY, TO EXPRESS DEEP APPRECIATION
AND TRUE ESTEEM TO YOUR NOBLE PERSON FOR THIS GIGANTIC,

COURAGEOUS STEP WHICH YOUR EXCELLENCY TOOK BY INVITING TO THE CAMP DAVID MEETING, WHICH INDICATES YOUR SINCERE DESIRE TO MAKE THE UNITED STATES A FULL PARTNER TO THE PEACE PROCESS, AND TO ASSUME A MORE EFFECTIVE ROLE FOR REACHING A COMPREHENSIVE AND JUST SETTLEMENT FOR THE MIDDLE EAST ISSUE AND THE PALESTINIAN CASE.

I NEED NOT SAY THAT MODERATE POWERS IN THE ARAB WORLD, FOREMOST SAUDI ARABIA, VIEW YOUR EXCELLENCY'S DECISION IN THIS CONNECTION AS A HISTORIC RESOLUTION, CONFIRMING THE GOOD INTENTIONS OF THE UNITED STATES VIS-A-VIS THE ARAB CAUSE, AND AN ENCOURAGING SIGN FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE LEGITIMATE ASPIRATIONS OF THE ARAB NATION FOR AN EQUITABLE PEACE IN THE REGION.

IN THIS CONNECTION, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY OPTIMISM THAT SUCH A MEETING, BY VIRTUE OF THE OPPORTUNITIES IT IS GIVEN THROUGH THE PARTICIPATION OF YOUR EXCELLENCY WHO ENJOYS A GLOBAL POSITION, INTERNATIONAL WEIGHT, TRUE WILL AND SINCERE DESIRE TO BRING A JUST SETTLEMENT FOR THE ARAB CAUSE ON ONE HAND; AND, THANKS TO WHAT I AND YOUR EXCELLENCY KNOW OF PRESIDENT MUHAMMAD ANWAR SADAT'S TRUE DESIRE AND WILL FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF PEACE IN THE REGION BY ESTABLISHING AN EQUITABLE COMPREHENSIVE PEACE ON THE OTHER, WILL SUCCEED IN ACHIEVING ITS AUSPICIOUS OBJECTIVES. I NEED NOT ASSURE
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YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT I PERSONALLY AND THE SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT ARE VERY CONCERNED FOR THE SUCCESS OF THIS MEETING, AND WILL SPARE NO EFFORT FOR SUPPORTING AND BACKING IT, AND WORKING TOWARD ITS SUCCESS, BE IT THROUGH DECLARING THE KINGDOM'S STAND TOWARD THE MEETING OR THROUGH QUIET DIPLOMACY, ENCOURAGED BY OUR OPTIMISM OF THE AVAILABILITY OF ELEMENTS FOR ITS SUCCESS, AND OUR DEEP CONVICTION IN THE DESIRED POSITIVE EFFECTS IN THE REGION IF IT IS DESTINED TO SUCCEED, THE THING ON WHICH THE UNITED STATES, EGYPT, AND SAUDI ARABIA HOLD IDENTICAL VIEWS AND SIMILAR INTERESTS.

IT IS WORTH MENTIONING IN THIS CONNECTION THAT HIS MAJESTY'S BROTHER, PRINCE FAHD BIN ABD AL-AZIZ, THE CROWN PRINCE, HAS MADE A STATEMENT FOLLOWING HIS AUDIENCE WITH H.E. AMBASSADOR ALFRED AHERTON, MAKING PUBLIC SAUDI ARABIA'S POSITION ON YOUR EXCELLENCY'S INVITATION TO CAMP DAVID MEETING, AND VOICING APPRECIATION AND AND SUPPORT FOR YOUR INITIATIVE.

AND THAT WHICH ADDS TO MY OPTIMISTIC EXPECTATIONS FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE CAMP DAVID MEETING IN ACHIEVING ITS

CHERISHED OBJECTIVES IS YOUR EXCELLENCY'S SHARING MY
DEEP CONVICTION THAT H.E. PRESIDENT SADAT HAS OFFERED
ALL THE COMPROMISES HE CAN MAKE. HE HAS REACHED IN THIS
THE MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE FROM THE ARAB VIEWPOINT,
WHICH MAKES ANY OTHER ENDEAVOR BY YOUR
EXCELLENCY AIMED AT HIM TO MAKE FURTHER COMPROMISES UNDESIRABLE,
FOR THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO BE ACCEPTED BY OTHER CONCERNED
ARAB PARTIES, WHOM BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND SAUDI
ARABIA ARE VERY KEEN TO WIN IN THEIR ACCEPTANCE OF THE OUTCOME

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3024

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 JIDDA 5961

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FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR WEST

COME OF THIS MEETING ON ONE HAND, AND SO THAT NO ONE,
WHOMSOEVER, MAY ACCUSE EGYPT OF COMPROMISING THE FUND-
AMENTALS OF THE ARAB CAUSE ON THE OTHER. IT IS ALSO OF
PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE THAT THE UPSHOT OF THE MEETING INCLUDE
THE LIST OF BASIC PRINCIPLES FOR SOLUTION - IF AGREEMENT
ON SAME IS REACHED, AND THAT THE INDEPENDENT AMERICAN
STAND - SHOULD AGREEMENT ON THE SUBJECT PRINCIPLES IS NOT
REACHED - INCLUDE RECOGNITION, IN EITHER CASE, OF THE
PALESTINIAN PEOPLES RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION FREELY,
FOR DENYING THEM THIS RIGHT AND THIS PRINCIPLE WILL MAKE
THE ARAB ACCEPTANCE OF THE LIST OF BASIC PRINCIPLES
AS A WHOLE IMPOSSIBLE, AND THE AMERICAN STANCE OVER THE
ISSUE WILL BE DEVOID OF ITS DESIRABLE POSITIVE IMPACT
ON THE ARAB LEVEL. IN ADDITION, WE BELIEVE THAT, WITHOUT
RECOGNIZING THIS RIGHT FOR THE PEOPLE OF PALESTINE, IT
WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE, IN TERMS OF OBJECTIVITY, TO REACH A
FINAL SOLUTION FOR THE PALESTINE ISSUE WHICH IS
CONSIDERED THE CORE OF THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM, AND WHICH,
IF LEFT WITH NO FINAL SOLUTION, NO PEACE AND
STABILITY WILL PREVAIL IN THE REGION.

WHILE EXPRESSING ANEW TO YOUR EXCELLENCY MY APPRECIATION
FOR YOUR EXCELLENCY'S PERSONAL EFFORTS, AND MY
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PERSONAL SUPPORT AND THAT OF SAUDI ARABIA FOR YOUR BOLD
INITIATIVE AND YOUR GOVERNMENT'S PRAISEWORTHY ENDEAVORS
IN THIS REGARD, I THANK YOU EXCELLENCY FOR THE CONTINUED
CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS, THE THING WHICH
ALSO ENGROSSES OUR ATTENTION, FOR THE SAKE OF OUR TWO
COUNTRIES, THE FREE WORLD, AND HUMANITY AT LARGE.

WITH WARM GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES FOR YOUR
EXCELLENCY'S CONTINUED HEALTH, HAPPINESS, AND IN-
CREASED SUCCESS.

/S/ KHALID BIN ABD AL-AZIZ AL SAUD

TAIF, 10 RAMADAN 1398H
AUGUST 14, 1978
END QUOTE.
WEST

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, SUMMIT MEETINGS, PEACE TALKS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978JIDDA05961
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: OA
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P850033-0057
Format: TEL
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780864/aaaacbdp.tel
Line Count: 196
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 380a8663-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1739402
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER FROM H. M. KING KHALID
TAGS: PEPR, PPDC, SA, US, EG, IS, (CARTER, JIMMY), (KHALID, KING)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/380a8663-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014